

the Treasury, by a recorded vote of 303 yeas to 116 nays, Roll No. 1150. **Pages H15354–68**

Rejected the Baccus motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Financial Services with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 173 yeas to 246 nays, Roll No. 1149. **Pages H15365–67**

H. Res. 862, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, H.R. 4299, was agreed to by a yeas-and-nays vote of 223 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 1145.

Pages H15334–39

AMT Relief Act of 2007: The House passed H.R. 4351, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide individuals temporary relief from the alternative minimum tax, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 226 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 1153. **Pages H15368–82**

Point of Order sustained against: McCrery motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment. **Pages H15380–81**

Agreed to table the McCrery motion to appeal the ruling of the Chair by a yeas-and-nays vote of 225 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 1152. **Page H15381**

H. Res. 861, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report, was agreed to by a yeas-and-nays vote of 225 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 1148, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yeas-and-nays vote of 222 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 1147. **Pages H15327–34, H15340–41**

Presidential Veto Message—Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007: Read a message from the President wherein he announced his veto of H.R. 3963, to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the Children's Health Insurance Program, and explained his reasons therefor—ordered printed (H. Doc. 110–80). **Pages H15382–91**

Subsequently, the House agreed to the Hoyer motion to postpone further consideration of the veto message and bill until Wednesday, January 23, 2008, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 211 yeas to 180 nays, Roll No. 1154. **Pages H15383–91**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Over-the-Road Bus Transportation Accessibility Act of 2007: H.R. 3985, to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to register a person providing transportation by an over-the-road bus as a motor carrier of passengers only if the person is willing and able to comply with certain accessibility requirements in addition to

other existing requirements, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 211 yeas to 180 nays, Roll No. 1155.

Pages H15391–92

Board of Trustees of the Congressional Hunger Fellows Program: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following members to the Board of Trustees of the Congressional Hunger Fellows Program: Mr. James P. McGovern, Worcester, Massachusetts and Jo Ann Emerson, Cape Girardeau, Missouri. **Page H15392**

Senate Message: Messages received from the Senate today appear on page H15320.

Senate Referrals: S. 793 was referred to Energy and Commerce. **Page H15407**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Ten yeas-and-nays votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H15338–39, H15339–40, H15340, H15340–41, H15366–67, H15367–68, H15368, H15381, H15382, H15391 and H15391–92. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:53 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Agriculture: Ordered reported the following measures: as amended, the CFTU Reauthorization Act of 2007; H.J. Res. 15, Recognizing the contributions of the Christmas tree industry to the United States economy; H.R. 1374, To amend the Florida National Forest Land Management Act of 2003 to authorize the conveyance of an additional tract of National Forest System land under that Act, and for other purposes; and H.R. 3454, To provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of National Forest System land in the George Washington National Forest in Alleghany County, Virginia, that contains the cemetery of the Central Advent Christian Church and an adjoining tract of land located between the cemetery and road boundaries.

BASE CLOSURE DECISIONS IMPLEMENTATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on implementation of the Base Realignment and Closure 2005 decisions. Testimony was heard from Philip Grone, Deputy Under Secretary, Installations and Environment, Department of Defense; Brian Lepore, Director, Defense Capabilities

Assessment, GAO; Anthony Brown, Lt. Gov., State of Maryland; and public witnesses.

ENERGY SPECULATION AND PRICE MANIPULATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation held a hearing entitled "Energy Speculation: Is Greater Regulation Necessary to Stop Price Manipulation?" Testimony was heard from Joseph T. Kelliher, Chairman, FERC; Walter Lukken, Acting Chairman, CFTC; and public witnesses.

FINANCIAL CONSUMER HOTLINE

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing entitled "The Financial Consumer Hotline Act of 2007: Providing Consumers with Easy Access to the Appropriate Banking Regulator." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: John Walsh, Chief of Staff and Public Affairs, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency; and Cassandra McConnell, Director, Consumer and Community Affairs, Office of Thrift Supervision; Sandra Braunstein, Director, Consumer and Community Affairs, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System; Sandra L. Thompson, Director, Division of Supervision and Consumer Protection, FDIC; Leonard Skiles, Executive Director, National Credit Union Administration; Richard Neiman, Superintendent of Banks, Banking Department, State of New York; and public witnesses.

U.S. ASSISTANCE TO PALESTINIANS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia held a hearing on Connecting the Money to the Mission: The Past, Present, and Future of U.S. Assistance to the Palestinians. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Robert M. Danin, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs; Charles R. Snyder, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Civilian Police and African, Asian, and European Programs, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement; and Mark Ward, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Asia and the Near East, U.S. Agency for International Development.

CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM ACT OF 2008

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection

held a hearing on the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act of 2008. Testimony was heard from Bob Stephan, Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Protection, Department of Homeland Security; Gary Sondermeyer, Director of Operations, Department of Environmental Protection, State of New Jersey; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 3609, Emergency Home Ownership and Mortgage Equity Protection Act of 2007; and H.R. 3753, Federal Judicial Salary Restoration Act of 2007.

OVERSIGHT—FEES FOR FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY ON PUBLIC LANDS

Committee on Natural Resources: Held an oversight hearing on New Fees for Filming and Photography on Public Lands. Testimony was heard from Mitch Butler, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior; Leslie Weldon, External Affairs Officer, Office of the Chief, Forest Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Ordered reported the following measures: H.R. 4220, amended, Federal Food Donation Act of 2007; H.R. 3468, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1704 Weeksville Road in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, as the "Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr. Post Office;" H.R. 3720, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 424 Clay Avenue in Waco, Texas as the "Army PFC Juan Alonso Covarrubias Post Office Building;" H.R. 3721, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1190 Lorena Road in Lorena, Texas, as the "Marine Gunnery Sgt. John D. Fry Post Office Building;" H.R. 3803, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3100 Cashwell Drive in Goldsboro, North Carolina, as the "John Henry Wooten, Sr. Post Office Building;" H.R. 3911, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 95 Church Street in Jessup, Pennsylvania, as the "Lance Corporal Dennis James Veater Post Office;" H.R. 3988, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3701 Altamesa Boulevard in Fort Worth, Texas, as the "Master Sergeant Kenneth N. Mack Post Office Building;" H.R. 4210, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service

located at 401 Washington Avenue in Weldon, North Carolina, as the “Dock M. Brown Post Office Building;” H.R. 4211, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 725 Roanoke Avenue in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, as the “Judge Richard B. Allsbrook Post Office;” H.R. 4240, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10799 West Alameda Avenue in Lakewood, Colorado, as the “Felix Sparks Post Office Building;” H.R. 4342, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 824 Manatee Avenue in West Bradenton, Florida, as the “Dan Miller Post Office Building;” S. 2110, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 427 North Street in Taft, California, as the “Larry S. Pierce Post Office;” S. 2174, To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 175 South Monroe Street in Tiffin, Ohio, as the “Paul E. Gillmor Post Office Building;” H. Con. Res. 198, amended, Expressing the sense of Congress that the United States has a moral responsibility to meet the needs of those persons, groups and communities that are impoverished, disadvantaged or otherwise in poverty; H. Con. Res. 254, Recognizing and celebrating the centennial of Oklahoma statehood; and H. Res. 816, amended, Congratulating the Colorado Rockies on winning the National League Championship and playing in the World Series.

The Committee also approved a Committee report entitled “Political Interference with Global Change Science under the Bush Administration.”

ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS OF WATER BOTTLING

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Domestic Policy held a hearing on Assessing the Environmental Risks of the Water Bottling Industry’s Extraction of Groundwater. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a voice vote, a closed rule providing one hour of debate in the House on H.J. Res. 69, making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution (except for clause 9 or

10 of Rule XXI). The rule waives all points of order against provisions of the joint resolution. The rule also provides that the joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The rule provides that the Chair may postpone further consideration of the joint resolution to a time designated by the Speaker. The rule directs the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations to insert in the Congressional Record at any time during the remainder of the first session of the 110th Congress such material as he may deem explanatory of appropriations measures for the fiscal year. Finally, the rule tables H. Res. 839 and H. Res. 850.

SARBANES-OXLEY AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing entitled “Sarbanes-Oxley Section 404: New Evidence on the Cost for Small Companies.” Testimony was heard from Christopher Cox, Chairman, SEC; and public witnesses.

LOCAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES NEAR NEW DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a hearing on the New DHS Headquarters at St. Elizabeths: Local Business Opportunities. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GSA: David Winstead, Commissioner, Public Building Service; and Dawud Abdur-Rahman, Director, Portfolio Management Division—National Capital Region; RADM Earl Gay, USN, Commandant, Naval District Washington, Washington Navy Yard; Department of the Navy; and public witnesses.

VETERANS’ MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Held a hearing on Stopping Suicides: Mental Health Challenges Within the Department of Veterans Affairs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Michael Shepherd, M.D., Physician, Office of Healthcare Inspections, Office of the Inspector General; Ira Katz, M.D., Deputy Chief, Patient Care Services, Office of Mental Health, Veterans Health Administration; and Kara Zivin, Research Investigator, Serious Mental Illness Treatment Research and Evaluation Center; representatives of veterans organizations; and public witnesses.

OUTPATIENT WAITING TIMES

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations and the Subcommittee on Health held a joint hearing on Outpatient Waiting Times. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Belinda Finn, Assistant Inspector General, Audits; Gerald M. Cross, M.D., Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Health; and Paul Tibbits, M.D., Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of Enterprise Development, Office of Information and Technology; and public witnesses.

BRIEFING—CIA TAPES

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on CIA Tapes. The Committee was briefed by Michael V. Hayden, Director, CIA.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1589)

H.R. 1429, to reauthorize the Head Start Act, to improve program quality, to expand access. Signed on December 12, 2007. (Public Law 110-134)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2007

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine shopping smart and avoiding scams, focusing on financial literacy during the holiday season, 10:30 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests, to hold hearings to examine forest restoration and hazardous fuels reduction efforts in the forests of Oregon and Washington, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the Clean Water Act (Public Law 92-500), focusing on the Supreme Court decisions in Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County and Rapanos-Carabell, 9 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the housing decline, focusing on the extent of the problem and potential remedies, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine perspectives on the next phase of the global fight

against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Education and Labor Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions to examine the National Labor Relations Board, focusing on decisions and their impact on worker's rights, 10 a.m., 2175-RHOB.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine prioritizing management, focusing on implementing chief management officers at federal agencies, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine S. 344, to permit the televising of Supreme Court proceedings, S. 2402, to provide for the substitution of the United States in certain civil actions, S. 1638, to adjust the salaries of Federal justices and judges, S. 1829, to reauthorize programs under the Missing Children's Assistance Act, S. 431, to require convicted sex offenders to register online identifiers, S. 2344, to create a competitive grant program to provide for age-appropriate Internet education for children, S. 352, to provide for media coverage of Federal court proceedings, S. Res. 388, designating the week of February 4 through February 8, 2008, as "National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week", and S. Res. 396, expressing the sense of the Senate that the hanging of nooses for the purpose of intimidation should be thoroughly investigated by Federal, State, and local law enforcement authorities and that any criminal violations should be vigorously prosecuted, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: business meeting to consider the nomination of James B. Peake, of the District of Columbia, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 3 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Select Intelligence Oversight Panel, executive, hearing on CIA Interrogation Program, 1 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, hearing on global maritime strategy initiatives, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, hearing on CBO's Long-Term Budget Outlook, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 4040, Consumer Product Safety Modernization Act; and H.R. 1216, Cameron Gulbransen Kids and Cars Safety Act; and to consider pending Committee business, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts, The Internet, and Intellectual Property, hearing on H.R.